



# INDIAN HEAD

A circular collage of six images representing different naval warfare capabilities: a ship's deck with a helicopter, a missile launch, a ship's hull, a ship's interior, a ship's exterior, and a ship's deck. The collage is set against a background of a ship's hull and a ship's deck.

## WARFARE CENTER ENTERPRISE

**IndianHead**, one of eight Divisions of the NAVSEA Warfare Center Enterprise, is located on a point of land along the Potomac River in rural Maryland, where researchers are making striking advances in the field of energetic systems. In state-of-the-art laboratories and facilities, they are developing, testing, and manufacturing the newest generation of explosives and propellants for use in 21st century U.S. weapons-systems and aboard the most advanced Navy ships and aircraft. NAVSEA's Indian Head Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center houses a vibrant community of scientists, engineers, and technicians dedicated to ensuring the safety of U.S. military personnel and securing the nation's military superiority in present and future armed conflicts.

### ***A Leader in the Energetics Enterprise. On any given day at IHDIV...***

- Chemists are inventing ingredients for new high-energy propellant and explosive formulations.
- Award-winning physicists are testing new generations of energetic materials that perform as required in specific applications while protecting the safety of U.S. service personnel and ships, aircraft, and military hardware.
- Engineers are developing and perfecting new manufacturing technologies that enable the private sector to produce explosives and propellants that are safer, less expensive, and have less impact on the environment.
- Mechanical and electrical engineers are fabricating micro-electromechanical devices—miniature mechanical sensors and integrated processing circuits loaded onto a single silicon chip—that create new opportunities to monitor and control the battlefield.
- Experienced explosive operators and highly skilled engineering technicians are meeting urgent fleet requirements by manufacturing rocket catapults that Navy pilots rely on to safely eject from aircraft.
- Dedicated Packaging, Handling, Storage & Transportation (PHST) professionals are pushing the state-of-the-art envelope to facilitate safe handling and performance integrity of energetics that are fielded as Naval weapons.

### ***What are energetic systems?***

“Energetic Systems” is a broad term that refers to explosives, propellants, pyrotechnics, and their immediately related components. Indian Head and its enterprise partners: Crane NSWC, Dahlgren, NSWC and NAVAIR's China Lake, Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division serve as a focal point for energetics and ordnance for the U.S. and allied forces.

### ***Where and Who We Are***

Indian Head, was established in 1890 on a 3,500 acre peninsula surrounded by the Potomac River and Mattawoman Creek in Maryland. Our land border is adjacent to the Town of Indian Head in Charles County. The location, just 25 miles south of Washington, D.C., has been an ideal home for the Navy and its ordnance mission since 1890.

Throughout our history, we have contributed to the nation's knowledge and development of ordnance and weapons systems. Our most recent contributions have supported the offensive successes of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

### ***What makes IHDIV a leader in the Navy's Energetic Enterprise?***

- We have the largest work force in the U.S. DoD dedicated to an energetic systems mission.
- We possess \$1.6 billion of facilities and equipment assets and have invested \$75 million in environmental compliance initiatives during the past ten years.
- We are a hub for solving energetics problems, working closely with the other service branches, public and private academic institutions, government and private sector laboratories, and the research agencies of allied nations.
- We have the ability to rapidly scale-up to manufacture energetic materials for war and other needs when private sources are unavailable.
- We are capable of low-rate initial production for research needs or before private sources are tooled up to fulfill defense requirements.
- We are the sole producer of certain energetics products.
- We are a smart buyer for the government, saving procurement dollars.
- We maintain cutting-edge research and development programs in explosives, propellants, manufacturing technology and weapons containers and ordnance handling equipment among many other R&D initiatives

In short, the U.S. Navy and other Department of Defense agencies and allied nations come to Indian Head for energetic systems solutions. It is our job to know how to solve warfighting ordnance problems and to work with partners in the defense establishment, private sector, and academia. One Navy Admiral once described our military value by this statement: “Without Ordnance (energetic systems), the Navy is just an expensive cruiseline.”

***Supporting the Navy's Vision of Alignment Through Collaborative Efforts to Deliver Energetic Systems.***

**[www.ih.navy.mil](http://www.ih.navy.mil)**

*For additional information, please contact:*

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**Indian Head**



The U.S. Navy first used this Indian Head, Maryland location as a proving ground for Navy guns. The mission then evolved from a test facility, to an ordnance production station, and finally to what it is now—a laboratory and a leader in the Navy's Energetics Enterprise.